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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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WEATHER FORECAST
OVERCAST.
Barometer 30.09.

February 22, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 60 2 p.m. 63
Humidity 70 " 73

February 22, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 60 2 p.m. 61
Humidity 81 " 88

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1917.

四月二廿二日英港

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph."]

THE NEW FRIGHTFULNESS.

The Latest Losses.

London, February 20.
The latest sinkings reported are the steamers *Iolo* and *Okement*, as well as two small craft, all British, of a total tonnage of over 8,000 tons.

A Protest from Sweden.

London, February 21.
The Swedish Press denounces the submerging of Sweden's biggest sailing ship, the *Hugo Hamilton*, from Valparaiso to Sweden with a cargo of saltpetre, contrasting this flagrant breach of international law with the British methods.

The Futile German Blockade.

London, February 21.
The report for 1916 of the Liverpool Steamship Owners Association states that Britain's coast-going tonnage has been reduced less than five per cent. in the two and a half years of war. It says that these figures show the futility of the German blockade.

Neutrals Most Affected.

London, February 21.
According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, Lord Robert Cecil, interviewed by the Associated Press, said submarine had so far had very little effect on imports into the United Kingdom, but it had interfered to some extent with the trade of neutrals. Some of the Scandinavian and Dutch trans-Atlantic steamers were now afraid to call at United Kingdom ports in order to be searched and thus to avoid the trouble of search at sea. The British Government had consequently arranged that such ships should be searched at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Searching of Vessels.

London, February 21.
An Order-in-Council has been published in the *Gazette* enacting that, in view of German submarine, unless vessels bound to and from neutral countries adjacent to Germany call at British or Allied ports in order to be searched, they shall, until the contract be established, be deemed to be carrying enemy goods and will be liable to capture and condemnation. But ships calling at British or Allied ports for examination shall not be presumed to be carrying enemy goods and shall not be condemned merely because they are carrying enemy goods.

DUTCH STEAMSHIP PLANS.

Vessels to Call at Hongkong.

London, February 20.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the Nederland Shipping Company and the Rotterdamse Lloyd will shortly resume services with eight passenger steamers between Java and San Francisco, touching Hongkong, Nagasaki and Honolulu, and connecting with the Holland-America Line from New York.

THE MAN-POWER QUESTION.

Age Limit May be Raised to 50 Years.

London, February 21.
It is stated that the Government has decided to revise all exemptions of men under thirty-one. If this is insufficient to provide the necessary number of men fit for active service, the military age may be raised to fifty.

THE WAR LOAN.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's Subscription.

London, February 20.
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and clients have taken up £5,010,000 in the War Loan, of which £1,670,000 is new money.

What Egypt Has Contributed.

London, February 21.
Egypt has contributed nearly five million sterling to the British War Loan, of which £3,750,000 is new money.

Premium Bonds.

London, February 21.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law said he had an open mind on the propriety of issuing a further Loan in the form of Premium Bonds, but legislation would be necessary.

TRAVELLING RESTRICTIONS.

London, February 21.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne, women and children are prohibited from travelling to Europe under any circumstances.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

British and French Attacks.

London, February 21.
A German official wireless message says:—We frustrated British attacks to the south-east of Ypres, outside the La Bassée Canal, and French attacks between the Meuse and Moselle.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

Germany's Dream Not Yet Abandoned

London, February 21.
In the House of Lords, Lord Carson said the situation in Persia had steadily improved since August, when German intrigues reached its maximum; but Germany's dream of a German dominion from Antwerp to the Indian Ocean was by no means abandoned, while the Turks, though unable to advance, still occupied 30,000 square miles of Persia.

A Fine March.

London, February 21.
Lord Carson, in the House of Lords, described an hitherto unmentioned march of the forces commanded by Sir Percy Sykes, of one thousand miles, to Ispahan and Teheran, under the most perilous circumstances. It resulted in the establishment of order over a wide area and secured the existence of a pro-Ally government in Teheran. The object of Sir Percy Sykes was to organise the forces of the Persian Gendarmerie under British officers in Southern Persia, which will ultimately number eleven thousand. Sir Percy Sykes' force is at present five thousand, besides an Indian escort of eight hundred. A similar force of Gendarmerie is being raised among the Bakhtiari tribesmen.

Lord Carson hoped that Sir Percy Sykes would before long march from Shiraz and clear the brigands out of their nests in Western Persia.

Another force, commanded by Major Keith, had pacified Eastern Persia.

Lord Carson paid a tribute to the loyalty of the Amir of Afghanistan, who declined to be seduced by a tempting offer to spoil the Panjab. Though Turks still occupied parts of Persia, the position of the oilfields was practically secure.

OUR FISCAL POLICY.

Problems to be Faced.

London, February 21.
The Committee on Industrial and Commercial Policy proposes to report later on the question of a wider range of Customs duties, and also on the question as to how far the Dominions could be met by granting them subsidies instead of tariff preferences.

It will be necessary to examine closely into the effect of imposing duties upon articles used for manufacturing purposes in Britain, especially in connection with the export trades, the shipping and shipbuilding industries.

The special position of India, Egypt and the Sudan, and also British commercial Treaty obligations and the effect of the proposed policy upon the interests of countries with which our trade relations are especially important must be considered.

AMERICA'S NEW POSSESSION.

London, February 19.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Senate has passed a bill appropriating five million sterling for the purchase of the Danish West Indies.

MAINTAINING THE FOOD SUPPLY.

London, February 19.
The Press Bureau states that the Board of Agriculture empowers local authorities compulsorily to take over land for allotment purposes with a view to maintaining the food supply.

MESOPOTAMIA AND DARDANELLES COMMISSIONS.

London, February 20.
It is expected that the Report of the Mesopotamia Commission will be ready for publication in March.

The Dardanelles Commission Report will be published immediately.

THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES.

London, February 20.
The City Corporation has given £250 yearly for nine years towards the endowment of the School of Oriental Studies; the Goldsmith Company, £5,000 of War Loan stock; the Chartered Bank of India, £1,000 donation and £100 yearly for five years; the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, £200 for five years; the National Bank of India, £100 for three years; the Mercantile Bank of India, £100; and Sir Marcus Samuel and Mr. E. Andrews £1,000 each. The last-named has increased his subscription from £100 to a tribute to the valour of the Indian troops.

AMERICA'S SUBMARINE FLEET.

London, February 21.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington states that the Naval Committee of the Senate has agreed to an amendment of the Naval Appropriation Bill proposing the construction of fifty additional submarines for use on the Pacific Coast.

PRISONERS CAPTURED BY THE TURKS.

London, February 21.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Hope stated that the Turks had taken prisoners 327 British officers, and 1,653 men, 140 Dominions officers and 140 men, as well as 105 officers and 3,573 men of the Indian Army, while 17 British officers and 1,363 men, and 4,879 Indians who had fought against the Turks were missing.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

Important Speech by Sir Edward Carson.

London, February 21.
In the House of Commons, Sir Edward Carson, in introducing the Naval Estimates, the amount of which was not specified, said the House was asked to vote 400,000 men. To October last, eight million men had been moved overseas, with only one or two unward incidents, besides 9,000,000 tons of explosives and war material. Since the war, the Navy had examined 25,874 ships.

Submarinism was a grave problem which had not yet been solved, but he was confident that the measures being devised would gradually greatly mitigate the seriousness. An Anti-Submarine Department had been established, composed of the best experienced men.

AN UNOPPOSED RETURN.

London, February 21.
The Coalition candidate, Colonel Stirling Keir, has been returned unopposed for West Perthshire.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page, they will be found on an Extra].

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE HAIG INTERVIEW.

London, February 20.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law, referring to the recent interview given by Sir Douglas Haig, said that Sir Douglas Haig had a frank conversation on the general situation with several important French journalists. Proofs were sent to Headquarters, but owing to the action of a subordinate they were not submitted to Sir Douglas Haig. The Cabinet was ignorant of the matter until the interview appeared. He deprecated further discussion on the matter. (Cheers and dissent.)

MALT MANUFACTURE RESTRICTION.

London, February 20.
The Press Bureau announces that the manufacture of malt suitable for beer brewing from barley and other cereals is prohibited except under the authority of the Food Controller.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE ADVOCATED.

London, February 20.
The Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy—of which Lord Balfour of Burleigh is Chairman—recommends that in view of the experience of the war special steps ought to be taken to stimulate the production of food-stuffs and raw materials and manufactures within the Empire wherever expansion of production is possible for the safety and welfare of the Empire.

Therefore the Imperial Government should now declare its adherence to the principle of preference for the products and manufactures of the Dominions.

With respect to any Customs duties now or hereafter to be imposed on imports in the United Kingdom, the committee is further of opinion that it will be necessary soon to consider, as one of the methods for achieving the above object, the desirability of establishing a wider range of Customs duties, which would be remitted or reduced on products and manufactures of the Empire, and which would form the basis of commercial treaties with the Allies and neutrals.

TURKISH POSTS CAPTURED.

London, February 20.
An official message from Egypt states:—We captured Turkish posts at Nechli and Bir-el-Hassana, in the Sinai Peninsula, securing prisoners and booty.

GERMANS CAPTURE A SMALL POST.

London, February 20.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Under cover of a heavy bombardment, destroying our trench, strong enemy detachments, assisted by flambeau-throwers, rushed a small advanced post southward of Le Transloy.

We entered considerably damaged positions eastward of Armentières and eastward of Ypres.

THE PACIFISTS ANSWERED.

London, February 21.
In the House of Commons, replying to the speeches of pacifists, Mr. Bonar Law said he failed to see any possible method of securing peace at present without fighting therefor. He taunted the pacifists on their criticism of our peace conditions, while they were silent regarding those of our enemies. We did not consider that ours were unreasonable. The Germans were clearly based on victory and an accentuation of the military machine, which would expose the world to a repetition of the present horrors. Germany was following the principle that it was not sufficient to fight her adversaries, but she must terrify civilian populations and neutrals. We are fighting to make the enemy learn that it does not pay to commit crimes. We believe that the war was forced on the world with a calculation as cold as that of a chess player who moves a piece. If we can help it, there will be no second Punic War.

Mr. Herbert Samuel warmly endorsed the Government's policy.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

OBITUARY.

General Funston.

London, February 21.
Reuter's correspondent at San Antonio reports the death of General Funston.

[Deceased, who was born at New Carlisle, Ohio, in 1865, was appointed Commissioner of Department of Agriculture to explore Alaska, and report on its flora in 1893. He was Captain Major and Lt. Col. Cuban Insurgent Army, 1896-1897; Commanding 20th Kansas Infantry, 1898, and went to the Philippines where he was promoted to Brigadier General. He organised and commanded an expedition resulting in the capture of Aguinaldo.]

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, February 20.
Reuter says the price of silver stands at thirty-eight. The market is quiet but steady.

FAILED TO REGISTER.

Ex-Naval Yard Policeman Fined.

At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. C. D. McTear, an Indian was charged with failing to register.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse D. S. P., appeared to prosecute and said that the man had been in Hongkong since 1910. He had been employed at the Naval Yard as a policeman, and had purchased his discharge from there last month, on the grounds that all his people in India were dying, or some such tale. Of course, there was nothing against him purchasing his discharge, but he (Mr. Wodehouse) thought the real facts of the case were that he had been learning motor driving, having paid \$100 to a firm here to learn, and that he was desirous of being a motor driver. Perhaps the man would be assisted to India before long. The Police could not overlook these cases where parties failed to register.

His Worship inflicted a fine of \$10.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.
China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co. — Shareholders meeting at 11.30 a.m.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

Saturday, February 24.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank—Shareholders meeting at noon.

Monday, February 25.
Race Meeting—First Day.

Tuesday, February 27.
Race Meeting—Second Day.

Wednesday, February 28.
Race Meeting—Third Day.

Saturday, March 3.
Race Meeting—Off Day.

General Aoki.
General Aoki was to start for Peking on the 14th of this month to take up his post of Military Advisor to the Chinese Government, as by that time the British, French and American forces will have withdrawn from the Tientsin area.

NOTICES.

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FOR ALL PURPOSES.
FOR QUOTATIONS APPLY TO THE
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FIRE at Current Rates.
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The Undersigned AGENTS for
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prepared to ACCEPT RISKS
against FIRE at Current Rates.
SHewan, Tomes & Co.,
Agents.

LESSONS IN CHINESE.

M. R. YU HU FAN, a Chinese graduate
of the University of Hongkong, has been engaged
as European official and interpreter in
this Colony for ten years.
He has a good knowledge of English, European
languages, and Chinese. He has also a good knowledge of
a first rate certificate of a Chinese teacher.
He has also a good knowledge of Mandarin
and Cantonese.
Those who intend learning the Chinese
language are requested to write care of
Hongkong Telegraph Office or direct to No.
10, Wellington Street, second floor.

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A first-class and up-to-date Hotel, most central location, within the vicinity of all the principal Banks.
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A first-class string Orchestra renders selections from 8.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Special monthly terms for residents and for shipping people.
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Personal Supervision of the Proprietress.
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First class and most up-to-date Residential and Tourist Hotel. Two minutes
from the Ferry. Moderate tariff and most excellent cuisine under entirely European
management. Monthly and Family rates can be arranged on most reasonable
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Apply:—THE MANAGERESS, Kowloon.
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Well furnished rooms can be obtained with or without board. Special rates for
families and mercantile marine officers.
Telephone K3. F. H. HALL, Proprietor.

PRIVATE HARTING HOTEL,
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EVERY comfort. Large and airy rooms, suitable for Married
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MRS. E. O. MURPHY, Proprietress.

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large dining room, facing the sea
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IT IS RECOGNISED AS THE MACHINE
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GENERAL NEWS.

Knew Too Much.
The German authorities at
Liege have deported Senator
Charles Magnette, a Grand Master
of Belgian Freemasonry. He
possessed documents concerning
German outrages.

Capt. Blaikie's Fate.

Captain James Blaikie, of the
Caledonia, the Imperial Merchant
Service Guild learns, is
now in a military officers' camp at
Friedberg, Hessen. It is gathered
that he is quite well and has
had very fair treatment so far.
Military officers who are
companions with him in captivity are
very kind to him, in giving what
help they can pending his receipt
of food and clothing from home.

Dean Swift Bound Over.

It was with an air of incredulity
that the magistrate at Tottenham
recently asked if the name of a
boy—W.H., with a companion,
was bound over for stealing a
bicycle—was really that given in
the charge-sheet, Dean Swift.
The proud father explained that
that was the youth's baptismal
name, and added that when the
boy, now only 14, was younger
he had expressed an ambition to
become a clergyman. Hence,
perhaps his Christian name,
although his father did not say so.

Compulsory Service in India.

Delhi, Feb. 2.—An Ordinance
for the registration of certain
European British subjects was
gazetted this evening, making it
obligatory for every male European
British subject for the time
being in India (not being a
member of His Majesty's naval
and military forces, otherwise)
than as a Volunteer enrolled
under the Indian Volunteer
Act, 1868), who, for the time
being, has attained the age of
sixteen years and has not attained
the age of fifty years on 1st
February, 1917, to register under
the Ordinance. Failure is punishable
by a fine extending to Rs.
500.

"Vorwaerts" Again.

Berne, Jan. 1.—On January 15
the trial will commence at Berlin
of the seven Minority Socialists
—two men and five women—on
a charge of assaulting Herman
Muller, the editor of *Vorwaerts*.
When the Majority Socialists
ejected the Minority Socialists
from the control of *Vorwaerts* and assumed its
management Muller became
editor. These seven Socialists
vented their indignation by invading
the editorial sanctum and thrashing
Muller. The trial is expected to reveal how
the Majority Socialists, with the aid
of the German Government, contrived
to secure control of *Vorwaerts*.

Petition that Melted Away.

A remarkable petition is referred to in a memorandum issued by the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Public Petitions. It was presented by Mr. R. Thompson on behalf of a War Time Council on Drink and National Efficiency, and prayed for the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors during the war. He stated that the petition was signed by 115,110 persons of 16 years and upwards. The Committee, however, have come to the conclusion that 98,704 of the signatures have either been written on sheets not headed by the Prayer of the Petition or are in the same handwriting, and these have therefore been disallowed.

Portugal Expels Germans.

Portugal is now pushing on her war preparations. The Government have expelled all Germans from the country, have confiscated their properties, and are selling by auction everything that belonged to them which is realising a good deal of money. The Government say that after the war each German who wishes to return to Portugal will be brought before a special jury, and if it is found that he acted treacherously he will be deprived of everything that was seized by the authorities. In one house 260,000 worth of goods was seized, and in another concern shipping of the value of over £100,000. There were many wealthy Germans in Portugal. Several have gone to live in Spain.

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Wines & Liqueurs of the Best
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HONGKONG.

TELEPHONE NO. 616.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1917.

CHINA'S GRAND OPPORTUNITY.

The days go by and still we hear nothing of any German reply to China's protest against the new submarine. This fact should in no way surprise the Chinese, for they learned long ago that the German strong point is certainly not good manners. They have, it is true, been treated to churlishness from every foreign nation at one time or another, but in this respect, as in every other unpleasant one, the palm has to be yielded to the much-cultured Hun. Perhaps the Kaiser thinks that a protest from mere Chinese is just an insult which he is bound to ignore. The delay in replying is, after all, but one more item in the long list of indignities which the Chinese have endured at the hands of the Germans. We remember the late Sir Chantung Liang Cheng's telling us, some four years ago, that his mission to Berlin in 1901 threatened to break down altogether because the crowned bumpkin of Germany tried to demand the *kuo tou* of Prince Chun and the other emissaries: a demand which he would not have dared to breathe to the representatives of any other nation. And have the Chinese forgotten that, when the Kaiser sent his troops on their punitive expedition to China (an expedition which never ought to have been sent, seeing that the Legations had been relieved some weeks when the Germans arrived), his benedictory message to them was: "When you meet the foe you will destroy him. No quarter will be given; no prisoners will be taken; let all who fall into your hands be at your mercy. Just as the Huns a thousand years ago, under the leadership of Attila, gained a reputation in virtue of which they still live in historical tradition, so may the name of Germany become known in such a manner in China that no Chinaman will ever again even dare to look askance at a German."

In return for this gentle conduct observed towards them by the troops at Kaiser Wilhelm's behest, China has paid to Germany as much money as would have sufficed to set her permanently on her feet—and she still owes thirteen and a half million sterling of the indemnity! And has she no other debts towards this refined race? Upon what funds has the German campaign of lies and bribery in China, since the war began, been conducted, if not on the interest on the short-term loans and the money periodically claimed by Krapp's agents? And there is a bigger debt still—the duty of punishing the commercial thieves from the Fatherland who, for years past, have insolently plundered her in every direction. Have the Hongkong Chinese forgotten the cartridges with wooden bullets, the "made in Germany" rifles and machine-guns, the boxes of "ammunition" containing nothing, and all the other daylight robberies of which the German firms out here were guilty, at the time of the first Revolution? On Tuesday we published an account of how the Berliner firm deliberately stole a sum of forty-five thousand dollars from a Fatshan Chinese; and scores of similar revelations are waiting to be made. We have alluded above to the Hun punitive expedition, after the Boxer troubles. Have the Chinese ceased to remember that their homes and their relatives were treated just as those in Belgium and Northern France have been treated; that hundreds of their young girls were raped—in fact that the conduct of the German troops in Europe to-day is but a magnified edition of what took place in China sixteen years ago? Is there no account to be settled here?

Most of the thinking Chinese know that Germany's history in regard to China is just one long story of exploitation, of pledges broken, of lies told, of terrorism, of brutal patronage and unprovoked insolence, and of deep-laid plans for involving her with foreign nations; and it is time that the non-thinkers were also made aware of this. What is the Laoshikai dispute, but the result of German scheming? The strip of land outside the Tientsin Concession was one which, to the Chinese, was not worth a dollar; and, had it not been for the apt instinct of the Germans to do mischief wherever mischief was to be done, no single word would ever have been raised against its being added to the French settlement. Over this the Germans lied as they lied over the progress of the war in the early days. Merchant and missionary, each endeavoured to out-lie the other. The Basel preachers, even in British territory, solemnly assured their dupes among the villagers that Singapore was in the hands of the Germans and that Hongkong would be likewise in a few days. All over China the markets have been affected by panics arising out of calculated German falsehood. And the Chinese Government knows all this. Then why the hesitation over declaring war? What the Chinese Government does not yet appear to know is that the country's very existence depends on the preservation of international law. What, save the regard which civilised nations have, paid to it till the present war broke out, kept China, Japan, all the small countries of Europe—ay, and even the United States—from invasion and partition by Britain, France, Italy, Austria and Germany? Only the triumph of a just law of nations can save China; and it is time that she realises this. The way lies quite clear before her. War with Germany gives her the right to intern the poison-mongers who have been responsible for so many of her sorrows; enables her to take a somewhat different view of her monetary indebtedness to the Hun, and makes her forthwith an ally of Great Britain, France, Russia and Japan—with all that this last fact implies.

That German Consul.

Regarding our remarks contained in Tuesday's issue, as to the including of the German Consul General in the list of vice-presidents of the Canton Medical Mission, we are now informed that this was less an oversight than a surrender to "old custom." An American missionary present had the courage to suggest that, under the circumstances, it might be well to cross out the name of the Hun representative; but the fact was taken into consideration that, for many years past, the British, American and German Consuls had always been vice-presidents, and it was thought well to "let it go at that." While we quite realise that, in a matter purely charitable, it is well to try and keep differences—whether party, religious or national—at as great a distance as possible, we submit that the present case is one which allows of no waiving of animosities. As we have many times remarked, during Britain's various wars with France individual Britiehers and Frenchmen were often on terms of closest friendship; and if we were at war with France to-day there would be no necessary reason why a French consul should be excluded from such a Board as that in question; for the French have always fought like gentlemen. With the German, it is quite another matter. He has so besmirched himself that he is not fit to associate with people who retain an atom of self-respect, and we are confident that the Britishers of Hongkong and Shamen would infinitely rather bear that a coolie from a conservancy boat or even a moderately respectable Lantau pirate had been elected to the Hospital Committee than any so-called white man who dares to defend Germany's methods in the present war. This is not just a matter of sentiment; it is one of plain common sense, for it concerns the safe-guarding of society. It is but a step from sitting on the same committee with a Hun to drinking with him, or to inviting him to one's house.

The Age-Limit.

The man-power question at Home has been taken a stage further by the announcement that the Government is to revise all exemptions of men under thirty-one years of age, and that, if insufficient soldiers are then forthcoming, the military age may be raised to fifty years. It would appear, therefore, that the authorities do not consider that they yet have enough men for the purpose of carrying the war to a successful termination. They no doubt have in mind the coming great offensive, in which, though the issue is certain, there will surely be extremely heavy casualties suffered. The exemption problem has all along been a source of trouble, and there can be no doubt that many a man who should now be in the trenches has, often on flimsy grounds, escaped being called up. It is only right, therefore, that, before raising the age-limit yet further, the ranks of the exempted young men should be put through a further process of "combing out." All the same, we are rather inclined to think that the authorities, knowing the huge demands that were certain to be made in order to keep up the strength of the Army, have hitherto erred on the side of youth in fixing the age-limit. Age, after all, is not of necessity the best test of a man's fitness for service. There is many a man between forty-five and fifty who, so far as "toughness" and powers of endurance are concerned, is then at his best. The man, for example, who has gone through the Boer War, or who has rouged it in some out-of-the-way corner of the Empire, though he may be close on fifty years, would be far more capable of standing the strain of life at the front and be a decidedly more formidable than most of the youngsters, called from the office stool or the shop counter to take up a rifle and go forth to fight. Had the age-limit been higher from the commencement, many a valuable man still in mafui would have been in the trenches long ago. What is more, by raising the age-limit step by step we are always giving the Hun occasion to make capital out of the idea that at length we are compelled to rely on our old men in order to keep our sea up.

The following will attend for range duties on this date:—Chief Inspectors Mason and Sirdar Khan, Sergeant Major Roystone, Staff Inspector Langton, Inspector Lamont, Silva Netto and G.M.S. Alves. Return from Stonecutters about 4.30 p.m. Members will make their own arrangements for drinks and rations.

DAY BY DAY.

DELUSIONS HELP TO MAKE LIFE WORTH-LIVING.

The Dollar. The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 24.43/16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary. To-morrow is the 108th anniversary of the capture of Martinique.

A Twelve Per Cent. Dividend.

Messrs. Benjamin and Potts advise us that the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., has declared a final dividend of Tls. 3.00 (6 per cent.), making 12 per cent. for year ending December 31, 1916.

Cable Rates.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company announces that the normal cable route America and Honolulu being interrupted, telegrams for those places can only be accepted via Europe and the Atlantic cables, or via Japan. Senders of telegrams are requested to "route" their messages.

Fell Overboard.

A Chinese has been conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from the effects of an immersion he received in the Harbour yesterday. It appears that he was travelling on the Yaumati ferry, from Yaumati to Hongkong, when he accidentally fell overboard. A life buoy was thrown to him, which he seized, and he was picked up.

Victoria Theatre.

To-night the dramatic three-part film "Father John" will be shown at the Victoria Theatre. For Race Week, the Victoria advertises a special attraction: "Dafe Devil Martell", the 20th Century mid-air marvel, and Abbott, the Great Ventriloquist, with his talking doll Joe. Both artists have good records and should prove a great draw.

A Literary Success.

Our readers will be interested to know that an exceptionally fine story entitled "Uneasy Money" is running in the *Grand Magazine*, the author of which is Mr. P. G. Wodehouse, a brother of Mr. P. J. Wodehouse, Deputy Superintendent of Police in this Colony. The story has met with a fine reception; the demand being so great that Mr. Wodehouse was compelled to put it into book form in America.

Sued After Payment.

A case was heard before Mr. Justice Gomperts, at the Summary Court this morning, in which a claim was made by a Canton firm for \$11 against a Hongkong firm, and it was stated by Mr. Leo D'Almeida, who defended, that the money had been paid before the writ was issued. Mr. C. F. Mason, appearing for the plaintiffs said that he had been told that the claim was settled, and that he had no further instructions. Mr. D'Almeida claimed costs because they had no right to be sued if the money were paid, and, after hearing proof of payment, his Lordship gave judgment for defendants with costs.

POLICE RESERVE MUSKETRY.

To-day's Police Reserve Orders state that all ranks of the following units who either (1) passed Part II of the 1916 Course, or (2) passed Part I of the 1917 Course, will attend the Ranges on Sunday next, February 25:—No. 2 Platoon, No. 3 Company, No. 4 Company; leave Blake Pier 9 a.m. Uniform with helmets. Service Rifles to be brought by those in possession of same. No other pattern rifles to be brought.

The following will attend for range duties on this date:—Chief Inspectors Mason and Sirdar Khan, Sergeant Major Roystone, Staff Inspector Langton, Inspector Lamont, Silva Netto and G.M.S. Alves. Return from Stonecutters about 4.30 p.m. Members will make their own arrangements for drinks and rations.

THE FORTHCOMING RACES.

THIS MORNING'S TRAINING TIMES.

A very fast course prevailed at Happy Valley this morning for the gallop, and, in consequence, some very good times were recorded. The main doings of interest were the gallops of Silverstreak, the Derby favourite, and Victory Dahlia, Sir Paul's candidate for premier honours. Silverstreak was held back for the first part of his mile and a quarter spin, and the whole time was on the slow side, but in the latter home he showed a very fine turn of speed and covered the last quarter in 29.2/5 sec.—some watches recording 29.1/5 secos. Victory Dahlia, with Burkhill riding, was pushed practically all the way, and his time for the full mile and a quarter was 2.47.3/5—or five seconds faster than Silverstreak. The last quarter was done in 30.1/5 secos.

While there were many other ponies out, they were not featured by any special times, the "clockings" of these being recorded below:—

Derby Ponies.

Aerialini. Half mile—26; 1.09.2/5; last quarter, 33.2/5.

Town Monet. Mile and a quarter. (Knoll)—35; 1.12.2/5; 1.46.3/5; 2.21; 2.52.1/5; last quarter, 31.1/5.

Oak Bay. Three quarters.—32.2/5; 1.03.4/5; 1.36.3/5; last quarter, 32.4/5.

Capilano. Three quarters.—32.2/5; 1.03.4/5; 1.37.2/5; last quarter, 33.3/5.

Jacobite. Mile and a quarter.—36; 1.11.2/5; 1.47; 2.21.2/5; 2.53.3/5; last quarter, 32.1/5.

Star of Djon. Mile and a quarter.—36; 1.11.2/5; 1.47; 2.21.2/5; 2.53; last quarter, 31.3/5.

Mansur. Three quarters.—34.2/5; 1.07.2/5; 1.37; last quarter, 29.3/5.

Sinco. Mile and a half.—45; 1.29; 2.00; 2.35.2/5; 3.08.4/5; 3.41.3/5; last quarter, 32.4/5.

Silverstreak. Mile and a quarter.—35.2/5; 1.12; 1.48.3/5; 2.23; 2.52.2/5; last quarter, 29.3/5.

Victory Dahlia. Mile and a quarter. (Burkhill)—34; 1.07.3/5; 1.43.2/5; 2.16.4/5; 2.47.3/5; last quarter, 30.1/5.

Advance Dublin. Mile and a quarter.—34; 1.07.3/5; 1.43.2/5; 2.16.4/5; 2.47.3/5; last quarter, 30.1/5.

Brown Mouse. Mile and a quarter.—39; 1.13.2/5; 1.47; 2.19.4/5; 2.52.3/5; last quarter, 32.4/5.

Tittlemouse. Mile and a quarter. (Knoll).—39; 1.13.2/5; 1.47; 2.19.4/5; 2.53.1/5; last quarter, 33.2/5.

Onward Dahlia. Mile and a half.—32.2/5; 1.07; 1.42; 2.16; 2.48.3/5; last quarter, 32.3/5.

Ike. One mile (Sedgwick).—41.4/5; 1.26.2/5; 1.53; 2.24.3/5; last quarter, 31.3/5.

Old Ponies.

The Gunner. One mile.—38; 1.18; 1.51.2/5; 2.22.2/5; last quarter, 31.2/5.

Peter Doody. One mile (Barton).—38; 1.11.1/5; 1.44.3/5; 2.19.3/5; last quarter, 35.

Matchbox. One mile. (Boyd).—38; 1.13.2/5; 2.06.4/5; 2.29.3/5; last quarter, 32.4/5.

Sandy. Mile and a quarter.—3.62.5/5; 1.13; 1.51.1/5; 2.27; 2.58; last quarter, 31.

Subscription Griffins.

Drumstick and Drangolza. Mile and a quarter.—36.2/5; 1.03.3/5; 1.47; 2.24; 2.50.4/5; last quarter, 35.4/5.

Moneybox. Three quarters. (Boyd).—35; 1.08; 1.41; last quarter, 33.

Merry Monarch. Three quarters. (Fisher).—35; 1.08; 1.41; last quarter, 33.

Haji. Three quarters.—38; 1.09; 1.40.5/5; last quarter, 31.3/5.

Tom Cobleigh. One mile (Sedgwick).—35.2/5; 1.12; 1.46.2/5; 2.18.4/5; last quarter, 32.2/5.

Flybynight. Half mile. (Barton).—33; 1.03; last quarter, 30.

Whizbang. Three quarters.—33.3/5; 1.05.2/5; 1.40.3/5; last quarter, 35.1/5.

Sabre. Three quarters.—33.3/5; 1.05.2/5; 1.40.1/5; last quarter, 34.4/5.

Sol. Half Mile.—31; 1.01.3/5.

Brown Bee. Half Mile. (Sedgwick).—31; 1.02.3/5.

Hush Hush. Three quarters.—36; 1.09.3/5; 1.41; last quarter, 31.2/5.

Goliwog. Three quarters. (Moller).—35.1/5; 1.00.1/5; 1.43.1/5; last quarter, 32.

Bridgnorth. Mile and a quarter. (Moller).—37.2/5; 1.14; 1.50.3/5; 2.26.4/5; 2.58.3/5; last quarter, 31.4/5.

WAR INVESTMENTS.

The Canton Scheme Explained

At the request of a considerable number of subscribers the Committee of the Canton War Investments Association has issued the following explanation as to the cost of the bonds:—

"I was taken to one of the great new munition factories just being put in operation. Here I was shown a thousand or more new machines for performing a certain operation in munition-making. Now, not only were these machines not in existence before the war, but it was even necessary to make machines to make parts of other machines that were needed for the rapid turning out of certain parts of the first one. One of these latter machines had over five hundred parts, and many thousands of separate measurements and many months of time were required before the first working model could be turned out. Knowing that practically all of these latter machines had over five hundred parts, and many thousands of separate measurements and many months of time were required before the first working model could be turned out.

The rate of Exchange which will actually be obtained by subscribers will be that ruling on or about March 5, and that rate will apply to the cost of the whole bond and not merely to the first payment. To-day, for example, the rate on Singapore is 101*1/2* Hongkong dollars equal 101*1/2* Straits dollars, but as a basis of reckoning we will assume that exchange is at par, i.e., 100 Hongkong dollars equal 100 Straits dollars, when the cost of the bonds would work out as follows:—

As all Bonds applied for by

CHINA AND GERMANY.

Japan Will Support China.

In view of many interesting speculations in Hongkong circles as to Japan's view of the China-German crisis we are in a position to state authoritatively that not only has Japan agreed to the position taken up by China against Germany, but that she suggested the contents of the Note and is acting in perfect harmony with Great Britain in the matter. As goes without saying, Germany is frantically trying, by offers of money and by threats, to persuade the Central Government to remain neutral, and even to bring it over to the side of Germany. What does not seem to have occurred to the Allies collectively till recently has been apparent to the enemy all along—that China's entry into the war on our side must mean practically the entire closing to Germany, after peace is declared, of the only profitable market now left to her.

China Unmoved by German Threats.

Peking, Feb. 14.—Since the presentation of the Note the German Minister has been very active calling on the Premier and

other officials and also on Liang Chi-chao, who is reported to have been largely responsible for the action of the Government. It is understood, however, that the Government has already decided a definite policy which is not likely to be altered by German persuasions or threats.—Reuter.

Japan Sympathetic.

Tokyo, Feb. 14.—The papers and the public generally endorse the attitude of China towards Germany and welcome the indications that China is prepared to co-operate in clearing the Far East from the menace of German influence.

It is understood that official circles fully endorse the Note presented by China to Germany. Baron Hayashi, who arrived on Monday evening, in an interview, said that there were indications of considerable activity in the matter of the industrial development of China. He expressed the full approval of co-operation between America and Japan for the purpose of rendering assistance in commercial and financial matters, but without interfering in political affairs.

He said that the Chengchishan affair had been satisfactorily settled and the relations between China and Japan were now more cordial than ever. Conditions in the interior, he remarked, have much improved.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FASHIONABLE AND SERVICEABLE WASHING MATERIALS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER.

A splendid selection at moderate prices now showing at

WHITEAWAY'S



VOILES

PLAIN COTTON VOILES.

Two qualities in White.

Width: 40 inches.

Price 95 cts and \$1.25 per yard

Plain Colours.

Shades:—Navy, Black, Pale Blue,

Grey, Pink, Green. Width: 40 inches.

Price \$1.00 per yard.

Stripes and Spots.

White ground, with small coloured

stripes and spots.

Width: 40 inches.

Price \$1.00 per yard.

"TOBRALCO."

A soft glossy material for ladies' and children's wear. The glossiness does not wash off, and the colours are fast. Spots, stripes and small designs.

Width: 30 inches.

All White: Price 60 cts.

per yard.

Coloured: Price 70 cts.

per yard.



STRIPED ZEPHYRS.

A variety of stripes in different colours, a light and serviceable material for morning frocks.

Width: 30 inches.

Price 40 cts. per yard.

A large range of dainty floral materials at 65 cts. to 85 cts. Patterns free on request.

WHITEAWAY LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.

HONGKONG.

THE SUI KAI OPIUM.

A Rumour Disposed Of.

The case came up again before Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Magistracy this morning, in which the Portuguese skipper of the Sui Kai is charged with importing over a thousand taels of opium.

His Worship, addressing Mr. Grist, said he was pleased to see the Captain was with him, and that there was nothing in the rumour that the defendant had gone away.

Mr. Grist:—Oh no; as a matter of fact he did go away to Macao with his steamer, but he has come back all right. As a matter of fact, I took the responsibility of letting him go. The case is not bad enough for him to stay away. Defendant hopes to take the steamer out again when it comes in next time.

The case was again adjourned.

CRICKET.

Chinese Recreation Club v. The University

In this match, on Saturday next, at 2.15 p.m., on the former's ground, the University will be represented by:—Ng Sze-Kwong, G. E. Marley, K. Brayshaw, J. D. Wright, R. Ponsonby Fane, A. H. Bumjahn, A. de Souza, A. G. Warren, D. Dixon, W. Gittens, G. Hall. Scorer:—G. S. Kwok.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

JUST RECEIVED

FINEST QUALITY, RIPE AMERICAN APPLES.

PACKED BY THE BEST GROWERS.

SPLENDID FLAVOUR.

FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

H.K.C. v. K.S.L.I.

These teams meet on Saturday (kick-off at 4 p.m.), when the Club will be represented by:—A. L. Goldenberg, F. W. Black, F. J. Dickie, J. Rodger, J. Stewart, M. L. Railton, G. A. Robinson, J. M. Walker, J. F. Stalker, H. McE. MacTavish, and F. C. Cleme. Reserve:—J. Railton.

WANTED.

WANTED—YACHT. Either Medium Sized Cruiser

Class w/ Motor; or Sampan or

Junk Yacht. Apply stating

particulars and price to "Yachtsman" c/o "Hongkong" Tele-

graph."

FOR SALE.

YACHT FOR SALE. The

Gael Class Yacht "THECLA"

Available Middle of March.

\$250. Lieut. Col. A. V. Alexander,

74 Punjabis Kowloon.

RACE HOLIDAYS.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS

will be CLOSED for the

transaction of EXCHANGE

BUSINESS on Monday, Tues-

day and Wednesday, the 26th,

27th and 28th instant 11.45 a.m.

Hongkong, 21st February, 1917.

74 Punjabis Kowloon.

THE
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.
EXTRA.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1917.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber this afternoon when those present were:—

H. E. the Governor—(Sir Francis Henry May, K.C.M.G.)
H. E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops (Major-General F. Ventris.)

The Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, Attorney General.

The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., Director of Public Works.

The Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

The Hon. the Captain Superintendent of Police (Mr. C. McL. Messer.)

The Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, Colonial Treasurer.

The Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G.

The Hon. Mr. E. Shillim.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock K.C.

The Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton.

The Hon. Mr. Lau Che Pak.

The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak.

Financial.

The following financial minutes, recommended by H. E. the Governor, were referred to the Finance Committee and subsequently approved:—

A sum of \$2,175 in aid of Harbour Master's Department, special expenditure, wireless installation for the steam tender Stanley.

A sum of \$30 in aid of Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, miscellaneous, dredging of Kowloon Point.

The War Loan.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the War Loan Ordinance, 1915.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The object of this Bill is to provide that the revenue appropriated for the service of the Hongkong War Loan shall be exempt from military contribution.

Powers of Arrest.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to the powers of arrest possessed by revenue officers.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The Objects and Reasons state:—It is desirable to make it clear that the powers conferred by Ordinance No. 6 of 1913 are to be in addition to those conferred by any other enactment. This object is proposed to be effected by the addition of the appropriate words to the clause which at present appears as section 2 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1913. As that Ordinance is short and has already been amended once it seems to be the more convenient course to repeal it and the amending Ordinance and to re-enact the provisions of those two Ordinances with the above addition.

The Interpretation Ordinance.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance, 1911.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The object of clause 2 of this Bill is to make it clear that powers conferred by an Ordinance may be exercised at any time after the passing of the Ordinance, even before its commencement, so far as may be necessary for the purpose of bringing the Ordinance into operation. This was clearly the intention of the existing section, but the reference in that section to the suspending of an Ordinance might be construed as limiting the section to Ordinances which contain a suspending clause. The section which it is now proposed to substitute follows as closely as possible the wording of the

corresponding section, section 37, in the United Kingdom Interpretation Act, 1889. It is not possible to follow the wording of the Act exactly, because an Act of the Imperial Parliament comes into effect on the day on which the Royal Assent is given while an Ordinance in this Colony does not come into operation until the date of its publication in the Gazette.

Clause 3 of the bill repeals the definitions of "Revenue officer" and "Excise officer" in the Principal Ordinance. The term "Excise officer" is no longer in use, the class of officers to whom it was formerly applied having ceased to exist.

Anglo-Portuguese Treaty. The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to make such provisions as are necessary to enable the Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty to come into force as regards the Colony of Hongkong.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

It is proposed that this Colony shall signify its adherence to the recent Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty, and Article 6 of that treaty requires adherents to restrict the use of the terms port and madeira to wine which is the produce of Portugal and Madeira respectively. This Bill, which is founded on the English Act, provides for the necessary legislation. The Act and treaty were published in the *Gazette* of the 20th February, 1915.

Protection of Forests. The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to make provision for the better protection of forests, forest reserves and plantations from fire.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The Bill provides that every person who shall wilfully or negligently set fire to anything, whether growing or not, in or near any forest, forest reserve, or plantation, in such a manner as to damage or endanger any other thing which is growing in any forest, forest reserve, or plantation, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100.

Protection of Crown Property. The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to make further provision for the protection of trees on Crown land and other Crown property from wilful damage.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

One of the objects of this Bill is to alter the composition of the body contemplated by the Crown Land Preservation Ordinance, 1910, for the purpose of enquiring into cases of damage to trees on Crown land or other Crown property with a view to the imposition of a fine on any village or area by the inhabitants of whom the damage was caused. In the New Territories the body will now consist of the District Officer and the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department instead of the District Officer and Assistant District Officer. In the rest of the Colony the body will consist of the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department and either the Secretary for Chinese Affairs or one of his Assistants.

The other object of the Bill is to widen the incidence of the fine and thereby to make it fairer. Under the present Ordinance the fine falls on the owners who are on the Crown rent-roll while the persons on the village rent-roll escape.

The form of the present Ordinance makes it somewhat difficult to amend, and this Bill repeals it and re-enacts the appropriate provisions.

(Continued on back page.)

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Extradition.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to repeal in part the Malay States Extradition Ordinance, 1903.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The Straits Settlements and Protected States Fugitive Offenders Order-in-Council, 1916, which was made by virtue of the provisions of the Fugitive Offenders (Protected States) Act, 1915, provides that the Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881, is to apply as if the Federated Malay States and the States of Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Brunei and North Borneo were British possessions. This Order in Council, which was published in the Hongkong Gazette of the 15th December, 1916, was brought into force on the 1st February, 1917, by the necessary notification under Article I, and from that date the Malay States Extradition Ordinances, 1903, Ordinance No. 4 of 1903, of the Ordinances of Hongkong, was rendered unnecessary except as regards the State of Trengganu. This Bill accordingly repeals the Ordinance in question except in so far as applies to that State.

Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance, 1916.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The object of this Bill is to make certain minor or formal corrections in the Principal Ordinance. The defective points in the Principal Ordinance are as follows.

In sections 18 and 21 (1) and (3) it is not clear whether the phrase "in respect of which an offence has been committed" applies to "syringes and other appliances" as well as to "poison" only. The Bill makes it clear that the reference is both to poisons and to syringes and other appliances.

In sections 18 and 19 the expression "every premises" is not grammatical.

In section 21 (1) (a) the words "dwelling house, shop, building" were left in by mistake from a former draft.

In section 21 (1) (c) the words "or designated" are now inserted in order to enable a description to be inserted in a warrant where the name is not known.

In section 23 (1) a reference to ships is now added.

HONGKONG WAR TAXES.

Definite Proposals Soon to be Announced.

At this afternoon's meeting of the Legislative Council, His Excellency the Governor said:—When I met Honourable Members on the 11th January it was decided that a further sum of \$2,000,000 should be given to His Majesty's Government for the purposes of the war to make up the total sum of \$5,000,000, which had previously been agreed upon as the Colony's gift. It was also decided that a sum of \$1,500,000 should be sent to China and a further sum of \$1,000,000 as soon as the money was available. I am glad to inform you that it was possible to add the \$1,000,000 on the 15th February. It has been paid to the Treasury Office in this Colony and the Secretary of State has been informed accordingly.

On the occasion above referred to I also informed you of certain proposals which had been made for the payment of the war tax.

THE WAR LOAN.

Statement by H.E. the Governor.

At this afternoon's meeting of the Legislative Council, His Excellency the Governor said:—On the 3rd February I received a telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in which it was suggested for my consideration that the Government of this Colony should take up a portion of the War Loan on behalf of permanent officials willing to subscribe by deductions from their salaries for a period of one year. I laid the proposal before the Honourable Unofficial Members of this Council on the 14th February, and you agreed to the proposal that advances of salary should be made as suggested by the Secretary of State and that the advances should not bear interest. I have been informed by the Secretary of State that the requisite amount of fully paid stock of the War Loan will be placed at the disposal of the Government of this Colony at issue price, plus accrued interest, as from the 16th February to date of payment. I am obliged to the Unofficial Members for their action in this matter.

BILLIARDS.

A Fine Game at Kowloon.

In connection with the Palace Hotel billiards handicap, a very fine game was witnessed last night, when Mr. S. Gray and Mr. W. M. Johnstone, both of Kowloon Docks, met in the third round. The former owed 250 and the latter 130 in a game of 500 up, Mr. Gray reaching that total when his opponent's score was 279.

The winner put up some wonderful breaks, passing 30 on less than seven occasions, and

scoring his 250 in just over 1 hour and 20 minutes. His best efforts were:—38, 37 (twice), 32

(twice), 30 (twice), 27, 26, 24

(twice), 23 (twice), 22 (twice)

and 19.

The loser's best breaks were 25, 24, 23, 19 (three times), and 15 (twice).

To-night at 9 o'clock, Mr. Morgan (owes 90) meets Mr. Simpson (receives 30).

WATER RETURN.

Level and Storage of water in Reservoir on Feb., 1, 1917.

CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS LEVEL.

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ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO.

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This vessel has excellent saloon accommodation for a limited number of passengers, is fitted with all modern conveniences and carries a duly qualified surgeon.

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14,000 tons Each.Hongkong to San Francisco,
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The most comfortable route to America and Europe.

Sailings from Hongkong:

s.s. "VENEZUELA" March 1, May 21.
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ALL LOWER BERTHS and Large
Comfortable Staterooms (all single and two berths only).The Safety and Comfort of Passengers is our First Consideration.
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& WEST RIVER STEAMERS.JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO
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Single Fare by Night Steamer \$ 6.00
Return Fare by Night (available also for return by day steamer) 11.00
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HONGKONG TO CANTON. | CANTON TO HONGKONG.

THURSDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY, 1917.

10.00 p.m. Faifshan. | 5.00 p.m. Kinshan.

FRIDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, 1917.

8.00 a.m. Heungshan. | 8.00 a.m. Honam.
10.00 p.m. Kinshan. | 5.00 p.m. Faifshan.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. Taishan Tons 2,008. | S.S. Sui Tai Tons 1,651.
HONGKONG TO MACAO.Week days at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok
Street Wharf. Sundays, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the Company's
Wing Lok Street Wharf.

MACAO TO HONGKONG.

Week days at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays at 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 25th FEBRUARY, 1917.

The Company's Steamship

"TAISHAN"

Will depart from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf at
9 a.m. and return from Macao at 7 p.m.N.B.—The Company's will also run a Steamer from Macao on
Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m., from the
Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.This Steamer connects with the returning Steamer from Macao
at 7 p.m.

FARES AS USUAL.

MACAO-CANTON LINE.

SERVICE SUSPENDED.

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AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

8.8. SAINAM 588 Tons, and 8.8. NANNING 569 Tons.

One of the above Steamer leaves Canton for Wuchow every
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at about 8 a.m., and the other
leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 a.m. Round
trips take about 5 days. Passengers can return to Hongkong or vice
versa by the Company's direct Steamers LINTAN and SANUI.
These vessels have superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted
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Booking Office open daily (Sundays excepted) to 5 p.m.

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TOURIST AGENTS.AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELLERS CHEQUES—
the best form in which to carry travel funds.

13. QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL, TEL. NO. 2089.

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BUILDERS OF SHIPS, ENGINES,
BOILERSOf all Types and Sizes. Repairers, Salvors,
Forgemasters, Brass and Iron Founders,
Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

GRAVING DOCK.

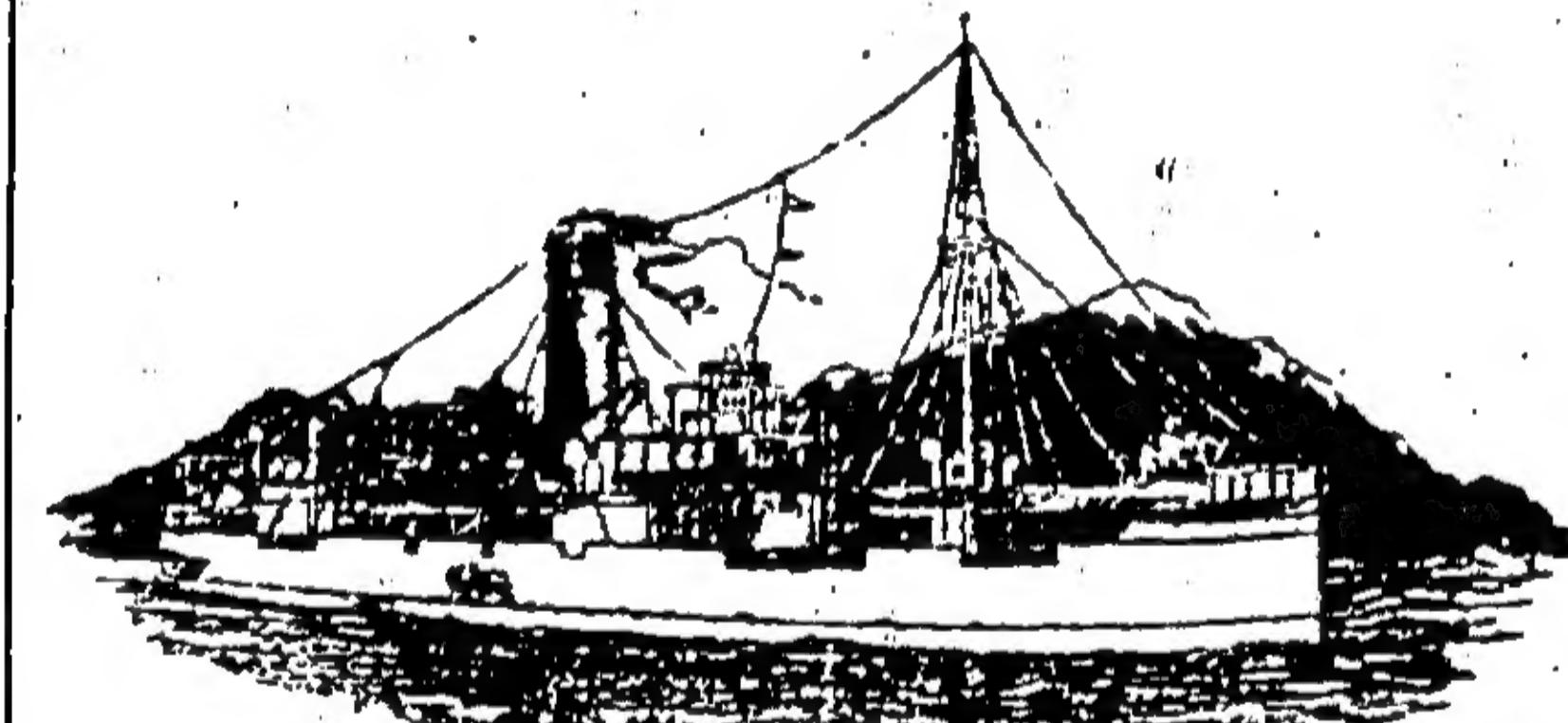
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ELECTRIC CRANES

Ranging up to 100 Tons.



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and Electric Welding Systems.

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MR. ROXBURGH, Master, THORNYCROFT's Representative, is at present in
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Gunboats, Speedy Launches, Harbour Craft,
Houseboats and Pleasure Craft of every description,
Motor Pumping Sets, Motor Vehicles, &c.THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD AND
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OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

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HONGKONG, CHINA & JAPAN, AGENTS.

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WARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale
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of Central Market) Telphones No. 31A.

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WARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale
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Pipes and Shipchandlers. Nos 36 and
37, Hing Loon Street, (2nd Street, west
of Central Market) Telphones No. 31A.

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Just arrived, Large Shipments of
Choice Hams.A. B. SORENSEN,
Act. Superintendent
Hongkong, February 15, 1917.

VESSELS LOADING AND TO LOAD.

Destination.	Vessel's Name.	For Freight Apply To	To be Despatched.
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NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND CANADA.

San Francisco via Japan	Siberia M.	T. R. K.	26. Feb.
San Francisco via Japan	Venezuela	P. M. S. S.	1. Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Tenyo M.	T. K. K.	6. Mar.
Victoria, B.C., & Japan	Tamba M.	N. Y. K.	8. Mar.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Russia	C. P. O. S.	15. Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Bitanx	J.C.J. L.	18. Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Nippou M.	T. K. K.	24. Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Ecuador	P. M. S. S.	26. Mar.
Victoria B.C., & Japan	Shidzuk	M. N. Y. K.	28. Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Tjukembang	J.C.J. L.	3. Apr.
San Francisco via Japan	Korea M.	C. M. S. S.	16. Apr.
San Francisco via Japan	Araka	T. R. K.	24. May.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Asia	C. P. O. S.	6. June.

JAPAN AND CHINA PORTS

Shanghai via Swatow	Ch'ysang	J. M. Co.	22. Feb.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Haitan	D. L. Co.	21. Feb.
Swatow/Bangkok	Wanchow	B. & S.	23. Feb.
Haiphong	Takson	J. M. Co.	24. Feb.
Manila	Loongkang	J. M. Co.	24. Feb.
Kobe Direct	Tosa M.	N. Y. K.	24. Feb.
Singapore	Ousang	J. M. Co.	24. Feb.
Kobe Direct	Yotorofu M.	N. Y. K.	25. Feb.
Shanghai via Swatow	Wossang	J. M. Co.	25. Feb.
Yangtze/Swatow	Chihli	B. & S.	25. Feb.
Shanghai	Yingchow	B. & S.	25. Feb.
Kobe Direct	Benten M.	N. Y. K.	26. Feb.
Shanghai	Chenan	B. & S.	27. Feb.
Haiphong	Lokksang	J. M. Co.	28. Feb.
Manila, Cebu and Illoilo	Sean	B. & S.	28. Feb.
Kobe	Tjilatjap	J.C.J. L.	1. Mar.
Amoy and Shanghai	Tamui	B. & S.	1. Mar.
Shanghai	Sinkiang	B. & S.	1. Mar.
Singapore	Ku'sang	J. M. Co.	3. Mar.
Manila	Chiphing	J. M. Co.	3. Mar.
Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama	Pushimi M.	N. Y. K.	15. Mar.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama	Nikko M.	N. Y. K.	16. Mar.
Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama	Tirano M.	N. Y. K.	21. Mar.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Moji	Penang M.	N. Y. K.	22. Mar.
Kobe & Yokohama	Yokkaichi		

VICTORIA

TO-NIGHT

9.15 P.M.

TO-NIGHT

9.15 P.M.

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY.

"FATHER JOHN"

THE RAG PICKER OF PARIS. AFTER THE STORY

BY FELIX PYATT.

IN 3 REELS.

DON'T MISS! DON'T MISS!

TO-MORROW, FRIDAY.

AND FOR 3 NIGHTS ONLY.

"VIA WIRELESS"

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TEL. 1062

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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Company's Steamship

"KITANO MARU."

having arrived Consignees of
Cargo are hereby informed
that their Goods are being
landed and placed at their
risk in the Hongkong and
Kowloon Wharf & Godown Com-
pany's Godowns at Kowloon,
where each consignment will be
settled out mark by mark and de-
livery can be obtained as soon as
the Goods are landed.Optional Goods will be carried
in unless instructions are given
to the contrary before

HONGKONG'S MAN-POWER.

WHY THE COMMISSION WAS FORMED.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S VIEWS ON COMPULSORY SERVICE.

Addressing the Legislative Council this afternoon, His Excellency the Governor said:—
"Gentlemen,—You will no doubt desire some information on the subject of the recent appointment of a Commission to consider the cases of men who wish to offer their services with His Majesty's Forces beyond the Colony. On the 21st December, I made reference, not by any means for the first time, to the policy of this Government in this matter. As that statement appears to have been widely misinterpreted, I desire to take this opportunity of elucidating it. I said that the policy of this Government has been to grant facilities to every man who can be spared from this Colony to go to the front and to organise the remainder as members of the local armed forces or in other capacities in work connected with the war, and I added that in carrying this policy into effect it had been my unpleasant duty to refuse the applications of scores of men to leave the Colony to go to the front. The phrase 'spared' from the Colony" meant, of course, spared by their employers or by the Colonial Government. In no single instance since the outbreak of war have I refused permission to leave the Colony to a man who could be so spared. These remarks were made in defence of the members of the local armed forces against whom unjustifiable aspersions as to their patriotism had been made. As time went on it is no matter of surprise that many men in the Colony were dissatisfied with the circumstances in which they found themselves, and on the 13th January a letter was presented to the Government signed by a number of men of military age, which is as follows:—

"In view of the equivocal position in which the majority of men in this Colony between the ages of 20 and 35 are placed, it has been suggested that a deputation should be formed representative of men who are eligible for military duty or for war work in some form to call upon H.E. the Governor in order to express their desire for authoritative settlement of a question which is a very vital one to each man individually and not without importance to the Colony as a whole."

"The Undersigned will esteem it an act of courtesy if you will place this letter before His Excellency the Governor together with their respectful request that he will appoint a time at which, and a place where, they may be allowed to call upon him."

"Among the questions proposed are the following:—

"1. Are men at present resident in the Colony, and who are either eligible for military duty or for some form of war work, expressly forbidden by the Colonial Government from volunteering for service outside this Colony?

"2. If the answer to the foregoing is in the negative, will the Colonial Government consider the advisability of appointing a responsible body to consider individual applications, and to ascertain from the Managers of all the business houses in the Colony whether or not it is possible to continue to maintain the Colony's trade with further reduced European staffs and a greater employment of native servants?

"3. If the answer to No. 1 is in the affirmative will the Colonial Government give to each applicant individually an undertaking that his services are required in this Colony and that he is definitely forbidden to volunteer for active service elsewhere?"

As a result I received a deputation from the signatories to the letter on the 25th January, and on the following day I caused a reply to be sent to their letter, which is as follows:—

"I am directed to inform you that the Governor has considered your letter of the 13th instant

On the 7th February, the Secretary of State approved of the appointment of such a Commission.

The Commission appointed by me consists of seven members, one representing the men of military age who addressed the Government on the 13th January, while the others are men of high standing in the Colony whose names I feel sure command the respect and confidence of the community.

The terms of reference to the Commission are so widely drawn that they include the consideration of cases from persons in the employment of the Naval and Military civil establishments and of the Colonial Civil Service. It is, of course, not desired to bear cases from persons in the first two categories and I have since excepted these two establishments. I have not excepted the Civil Service, because I desired that men whose applications to serve had been refused should not be deprived of an opportunity of having their cases heard by the Commission. But here I must point out that civil servants are not in the same position as men outside the Civil Service. Civil servants are servants of the Crown, and the Governor—responsible as he is for carrying on the administration of the Colony and of maintaining peace and good order and the protection of life and property therein—is bound to decide the number of officers required to carry on the work that is absolutely necessary in the public interest. In this connection I would draw your attention to the copy of telegram from, and to the Secretary of State, which have been furnished to you; and of the statement of the number of officers so far released for service with His Majesty's Armies or for other war work. There are other cases still under consideration due to fresh circumstances, such as return of officers of leave and renunciation of leave due to the embargo placed on women and children travelling, and you may rest assured that from time to time careful revision is made.

The number of applications received by the Commission is considerable, and many have already been dealt with.

It must be assumed that all those who have voluntarily submitted themselves to the judgment of the Commissioners desire, if permitted, to leave the Colony for active service in the war, but it is obvious that in some cases serious questions may arise as to how provision is to be made for those dependent on them during their absence. In the case of officers holding permanent posts in the Government service, no such question arises. Under instructions from the Secretary of State, their posts are kept open for them until their return from Military or Naval Service, and such service will count in full for Colonial pension and for increments (if any) of colonial salary, while they receive such a monthly allowance from Colonial funds as, with their Military or Naval pay, makes up their Colonial full salary.

In the case of others their employers are acting with equal liberality, and I should like to express on behalf of the community our deep sense of the genuine patriotism displayed by some of the leading firms in the Colony in this matter.

In all cases the Colonial Government has, since the beginning of the war, made itself responsible for providing passage for all those who require them, and with the sanction of Honourable Members I propose to continue this practice. There still remains, however, the question of making provision in cases where nothing is available except the separation allowances granted by the Imperial Government. If any such case arises I propose to make recommendations to you for dealing with it.

Unofficial Members of Executive and Legislative Councils are very anxious that I should appoint a Commission under Ordinance No. 13 of 1886 to hear and advise on cases of men (not over 41 years old) certified fit for active service outside the Colony who wish to offer their services but whose employers are of opinion that they cannot be spared. I should be glad to hear by cable that you have no objection to my appointing such a Commission".

Governor Servants Released. At this afternoon's meeting the following telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Office Administering the Government, Hongkong, dated November 30, was laid on the table:—

"Please telegraph total number of officers of your government who have been allowed to join Army and Navy for active service and number of European employees in the service of Government of

military age. Am I justified in stating that Colonial Government has released for war service as many as possible men consistent with maintenance of administration and local security?"—Bonar Law."

His Excellency's reply was as follows:—"Your telegram 30th November. Total number of officers who have been allowed to go on active service 68 including the 10 police accepted; see your telegram 4th November. Number of European employees of military age as married 141, married 102, taking age as 41. I am considering whether 10 more police and a very few others can be spared but speaking generally you would be justified in making statement referred to in your telegram.—May."

COMPANY MEETING.

The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company Limited.

(VERBATIM).

The thirtieth annual general meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, was held at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, to-day at noon. The Hon. Mr. C. E. Atton presided, and there were also present Sir Paul Obster, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, Mr. H. Dodwell, Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. A. David, Mr. A. S. D. Couland (Directors), Mr. W. S. Brown (Secretary), Messrs. R. Packham, P. R. Wolff, Henry Humphreys, A. A. Fyle, D. K. Moss, G. C. Moron, N. Croucher, T. W. Robertson, J. H. Kew, C. H. W. Kew, T. G. Weall, P. Tester, L. S. Greenhill, A. E. Crapnell, and C. S. Ismail (shareholders).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report, The Chairman said:—"Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, with your permission, I propose to take them as read. The past year's working at the wharves discloses a large increase in our earnings from all sources and is attributable partly to the greater number of steamers with large cargoes now utilising our wharves, partly to the large volume of cargo now passing through Hongkong, which, under normal circumstances would proceed by other routes, and partly to an unusual demand for godown accommodation during the summer. The results have been so satisfactory that your directors are able to recommend an increase in the usual dividend from 7 per cent. to 8 per cent. and a payment of a bonus of \$2.00 per share from the increased profits. With regard to the maintenance of an 8 per cent. dividend, while it is unwise to prophesy the development of our business and the growing demands upon our berthing and godown accommodation, justify us in looking forward with confidence to the future.

Considerable improvements and additions to our premises have been recently completed. The new steamer wharf has proved a success, and, besides relieving the congestion of work at our other wharves, permits of our berthing the larger and deeper draught steamers operating in these waters. The two single-storey godowns, mentioned in the report I am pleased to say, are being fully utilised, while the filling in of the old Police Basin, besides joining up our property on either side of this site, gives us the necessary land for erecting a modern three-storey godown when the opportunity occurs of obtaining material at reasonable figures. This building cannot, however, be delayed much longer, and in order to maintain our business, it may be necessary to proceed with the erection of the godown even while materials are at their present exceptionally high cost. With this in view, we deem it advisable to carry forward to next year's account a larger amount than usual.

I do not think there is anything else that requires special mention, and after the adoption

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph".]

A CANTON APPOINTMENT.

[To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph".]

Sir,—In a very interesting leaderette in your issue of the 20th instant, you comment on the fact that the Hunish Consul General for Canton has been elected a Vice-President of the Canton Medical Missionary Society, and "elected by acclamation".

What an interesting ceremony this must have been, and what an impetus it will give to the public to subscribe to the funds of the Society! It is a pity the names of those present at the meeting were not given, so that one might know who those were who elected a Hun with acclamation. In imagination one can see the gentle Hun, with a look of beatitude, sitting scratching himself in the seat of honour with faith, hope, and charity exuding from every pore of his porcine countenance. And in the future meetings of the Canton Medical Missionary Society I suppose this week discipline of peace and goodwill will be sitting cheek by jowl with the British Consul. What a sight for the gods! And now it will occasion no surprise if His Satanic Majesty and his lieutenant the Kaiser are also asked to lend their names to support the Society.

Yours etc.,
BLETHERING-HOLLWEG.
Canton, Feb. 21, 1917.

of the report and accounts has been proposed and seconded, I will endeavour to the best of my ability to answer questions from the shareholders.

I now beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Henry Humphreys:—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, which I think are very excellent. I think that the Directors and staff are to be congratulated.

The Chairman:—As there are no questions, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts, which have been seconded by Mr. Humphreys. The resolution is now before the meeting. Those in favour kindly signify in the usual way. Against? Carried. The next business, gentlemen, is the confirmation of the appointment of Messrs. E. V. D. Parr and A. O. Lang as Directors.

Mr. Weall:—I have much pleasure in proposing that the appointment of Mr. E. V. D. Parr and Mr. A. O. Lang be confirmed.

Mr. C. H. W. Kew:—I have much pleasure in seconding the confirmation of the appointment of these Directors.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Weall and seconded by Mr. Kew that the appointment of Mr. E. V. D. Parr and Mr. A. O. Lang be confirmed.

Mr. Greenhill:—I have much pleasure in seconding the re-election of the retiring directors, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim and Mr. A. David.

Mr. Greenhill:—I beg to propose that the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim and Mr. A. David be re-elected as Directors.

Mr. J. H. Kew:—I have much pleasure in seconding.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Greenhill and seconded by Mr. Kew, the re-election of the retiring directors, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim and Mr. A. David. Those in favour of the resolution kindly signify in the usual way. Against? Carried. Next comes the re-election of the retiring Directors, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim and Mr. A. David.

Mr. Greenhill:—I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. Maitland and Mr. H. Percy Smith as auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$500 each.

Mr. Packham:—I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. Maitland and Mr. H. Percy Smith as auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$500 each.

Mr. Robertson:—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Packham and seconded by Mr. Robertson that Mr. F. Maitland and Mr. H. Percy Smith be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$500 each.

I do not think there is anything else that requires special mention, and after the adoption

CANTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Question of Dissolution.

The following minutes of the annual general meeting of the above Chamber have been forwarded to us:—

Present.—Messrs. S. B. Brown (Chairman), B. F. Kavarana, S. F. Kavarana, Pohomull Bros., S. Dossabhooy & Co., A. D. Vanis, D. Chellaram, W. Boulchand, W. Assoum & Co., O. Eager, O. W. Darch, C. Meurer, H. S. Smith, O. A. Peel, H. Sutton, H. F. Dent, G. L. Read, G. H. Bowker, H. C. Shrubsole, O. C. Kench, John Robertson, J. Brad, F. N. Bell, L. E. Lamont, Lorley & Co., D. Forbes, C. Gaudiot, C. Poisat, O. Fumagalli, J. Eymar, H. M. Webb, and the Secretary.

The Chairman read the two notices calling the meeting.

The Chairman read a letter signed by thirteen German firms stating that they had decided not to attend the meeting and asking the Chamber to put on record their disapproval of the Committee's opinion that it has outlived its period of usefulness and should be dissolved. A letter from Mr. G. E. Huygen was also read stating that he did not intend to attend the meeting and that he disapproved of the resolution under Item 2 of the notice calling the meeting.

Accounts.—Mr. Sutton proposed and Mr. Read seconded that the accounts as presented be passed.

Dissolution of Chamber.—Mr. H. S. Smith then asked permission to address the meeting and said:—"Mr. Chairman, before you put to the meeting the proposal with regard to the dissolution of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, I would ask to be allowed to say a few words with regard to the reason of this proposal being brought forward. Owing to conditions which it is hardly necessary for me to go into, the Canton Chamber of Commerce has existed for the past 2 years or so—merely in name, and on account of its Membership it is impossible for the Committee as far as can be seen to carry on any work which may be for the good of Members in general. The majority of the Committee therefore were of the opinion that it was time the Chamber was dissolved, but in making this decision

—and I believe I am voicing the feelings of all the members of the Committee—I would clearly state that there is absolutely no animus in the proposal vis à vis the neutral members of the Chamber. The claims of the neutral members of the Chamber have not been overlooked and it has been suggested by some that an International Chamber of Commerce could be formed in Canton, to the advantage of Neutral, Allied, French and British firms and individuals. Business questions have in the past cropped up, and they are likely to occur again, where the co-operation of all is needed, and whereas our French friends have their own Chamber, the British theirs, which are of course exclusive to the nationality of the individuals and firms concerned, it would seem that attention should be directed in the very near future to the formation of a Chamber, styled say "The International Chamber of Commerce", Canton, which would consist of any firms or individual, except those at war with the Allied Powers, on say the 1st February, 1917. No doubt if this suggestion is of interest, some of the gentlemen present could follow up the idea, and if necessary get together at an early date, to consider the formation of such a Chamber, but of course it cannot be expected that French or British firms would be interested, if there was any deviation from the special condition of membership, to which I have alluded."

The Chairman stated that the idea of dissolution was totally disregarding Rule 24, and he was very much opposed to it, as also were all the Americans.

Mr. Peel held as his opinion that there was nothing in the rules to prevent the Chamber being dissolved and after a discussion in which Mr. Sutton and Mr. Dent took part, the 2nd clause in the notice was put to the meeting.

Chairman.—Mr. Smith proposed and Mr. Darch seconded that Mr. Matheson be appointed liquidator with salary up to 31st March, 1917.—Carried.

Archives.—Mr. Eager proposed and Mr. Darch seconded that they be lodged in the British Consulate, which was later changed to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank if no protest is lodged within three months, and that access be allowed to members of the Chamber. If an International Chamber be formed they are to be handed over to them, if not to the British Chamber of Commerce or the understanding that access be allowed to persons of French, British, Neutral and Allied Countries, members of the Chamber.—Carried.

Chairman.—Mr. Smith proposed and Mr. Darch seconded that a special vote of thanks be accorded to the Chairman for his services during a very trying period.—Carried.

THE SHROPSHIRE.

Entertained at tea and concert.

On Wednesday the Shropshire were entertained, tea being provided in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, a concert following in the evening in the Royal Naval Canteen, arranged by the Royal Naval Yard Concert Party. A very large number sat down to the excellent repast which was provided by the ladies connected with the Wanchai Wesleyan Church, headed by the Rev. and Mrs. Robinson, assisting at the tea tables.

The concert proved to be a huge success. Among the audience were Commodore and Mrs. Sandeman, Commander Gibson, the Rev. T. Robinson, Captain and Mrs. W. G. Litt, and Captains Shearer and Roberts, K.S.L.I. The theatre was packed, the Shropshire predominating, and there were also a number of ladies present. The uniform of the sailor could also be discerned here and there. No audience could have been more appreciative; there was reason for this, inasmuch as all the turns were splendidly rendered, and loudly applauded, encores being frequent. Great assistance was rendered to singers by the accompanists. Mrs. Alderman accompanied the larger part of the programme, the others assisting at the piano being Mrs. Suiter and Loe. Cpl. Johnson.

Among those contributing to the programme were Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Ewens, Messrs. Cawsey and Brock, Sgt. Parrock, Corp. Armstrong, Lcs-Corp. Freeman and Private Jones. All these were prevailed upon to give encores by persistent applause that would not be despised. A surprise was in store for the ladies taking part in the concert, Madames Alderman, Suiter, Ewens and Goodman each being presented with a charming bouquet of pink roses.

At the conclusion of the concert, Captain W. G. Litt, 4th K.S.L.I., in returning thanks on behalf of his Regiment, said he wished to thank all those who had helped in giving such a fine entertainment. He was afraid he could not remember all the names mentioned by the Rev. Mr. Robinson, to whom he had appealed, and who had given him a host of names of helpers, in which the names of the Rev. and Mrs. Robinson were omitted. He wished to thank the Commodore for so kindly lending them the theatre, and the figs and bunches for decorating, the artists for the splendid concert they had given, Mr. Brock and the Royal Yard Concert Party for the organisation of the concert, the Rev. Mr. Robinson and friends who provided the tea, Messrs. Komor and Komor for the very artistic stage furnishing, Messrs. Norton for printing, and those who had worked so hard in arranging the theatre and the decorations (Messrs. Brock, Powney and Edmonds of the Royal Navy); in fact, all who had helped in giving them such a jolly entertainment. He concluded by calling for three cheers for those responsible for the entertainment, and these were lustily given. God Save the King was sung before the audience dispersed.

Sutton seconded by Mr. Peel and carried, the Chairman voting against it.

Liquidation.—Mr. Sutton proposed and Mr. Smith seconded that Mr. Matheson be appointed liquidator with salary up to 31st March, 1917.—Carried.

Archives.—Mr. Eager proposed and Mr. Darch seconded that

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LIFE IN BERLIN.

Tickets for all Food.

Oil in the Philippines. The discovery of oil in Cotabato province, department of Mindanao and Sulu, seems to be something that holds promise of great future development, and officials of the department are enthusiastic over the possibilities which they believe have been opened up by the discovery, says the Manila Daily Bulletin. The Governor of Cotabato province, who is at present in Manila, has brought with him samples of the oil from the region and also is able to give an accurate account of the discovery and just what has been found out thus far regarding the possibilities for development and use for the oil from the region. He states that the oil was first discovered seeping through surface rock in the northern section of Cotabato, in the valley of the Malibug river, some fifty miles north of Fort Pickett, and about four hours' walk from the trail which is now being constructed between Fort Pickett and Lake Luso. The first seepage was discovered on the side of a mountain range, at an elevation of some 2,600 feet above sea level, but similar outcroppings of oil-seeped rock strata have since been located within a radius of 12 miles of the point of original discovery. One of the first prospectors on the ground has reported that he drilled a well to the depth of twenty-eight feet, and then "shot" it with a charge of dynamite, the result being a steady flow of oil averaging a gallon an hour until the well became clogged with gravel and rock. Since then, however, the seepage has continued at the rate of a barrel a day. The samples of oil have the appearance of oil that has been partially refined, and do not resemble the ordinary crude oil marketed from the oil fields of the United States or the continent. More than anything else, it resembles a light cylinder oil in appearance. The oil has been tried in a Bolinder crude oil engine and the experiment has been attended with most satisfactory results. Although the officials are enthusiastic over the prospects they are not inclined to express themselves too optimistically, but still declare that the amount of seepage in the Cotabato region is greater than at any other point yet located in the islands, and that there would appear to be every reason to believe that a development of the fields already discovered will lead to a very considerable production of a crude oil of exceedingly high grade.

Manila Hemp Market.

The market for the so-called United Kingdom grades of Manila hemp is dead at present, declares Mr. M. Salicy, of the Manila Bureau of Agriculture, in explaining the big decrease noted in the amount of fibre inspected and baled in the provinces of Albay and Ambon. Camarines during the month of January. This is due, he states, to the lack of ships to carry the fibre to Europe, and the result has naturally been that in those provinces where growers and strippers specialised in the lower or "U. K." grades, marketing has been curtailed. To remedy this situation, which is particularly noted in the two provinces already mentioned, the Bureau's fibre inspector in that region has had printed and distributed a large number of circulars in the Bicol dialect, explaining the reasons for the present lack of demand and urging the growers to devote their attention to the production of the higher grades which find a ready market in the United States. In this connection he urges that instead of concentration upon the grades known to the trade as J, K, L and M, an effort be made to increase production of F, G, H, and I fibre and asserts that there will be no lack of demand for fibre of this grade. The monthly fibre report shows a total of 78,988 bales of hemp inspected and certified to under the fibre classification act, during the past month.—*Manila Daily Bulletin*.

For the best Meals, Refreshments, Bread, Cakes and Confectionery, av. before-the-war prices. **ALEXANDRA CAFE**.

The Germans, at least the Berliners, did not realise that they were beaten. For the past twelve months, however, they had lost all hope of victory, but they say they will never be beaten—they think the war will end in a draw. The Kaiser is as popular as ever, but not so the Crown Prince, who lost much favour in the public eye when he failed so disastrously at Verdun. I saw him on the pictures when he attended the funeral of the Austrian Emperor and he was looking "merry and bright" enough then.

President Wilson's action greatly pleased the people. They were very glad at the report of peace, and the meeting of the Reichstag, when the Chancellor made his speech, caused great excitement.

The "Hymn of Hate" is not very popular now, but the papers can stir up hate at any moment. They are now, however, full of articles on peace. They never talk of their navy and submarines, nor do they mention Zeppelins. The overbearing habits of the German officers have been much scolded of late. Hindenburg is still a popular hero, and there is very little space on his statue for more names. Street cars, omnibuses, and trains, are still running, but with restricted services. Fares have not been raised. None of the parks have been ploughed up for market garden purposes, nor do I think they will be. There are no wounded to be seen, they are all kept in hospitals, but there are still plenty of young men to be seen about the streets. There was a story some time ago of a shortage of ammunition, but we had no means of knowing whether it was true or not. The people quite think that after the war is over they will be on friendly terms with the English again. They do not think that Austria would make separate peace without asking Germany, although there are rumours to that effect. I think Germany would put up with invasion rather than give in.

A Londoner, who had long been resident in Berlin, said the train to the Dutch frontier was crowded, many of the passengers being soldiers. The journey occupied thirteen hours, and the train passed through Essen at night. The place seemed very busy, and the sky was illuminated with the reflection from the huge furnaces. Among the passengers were an Englishman, his wife, and three children who had been living in Berlin, and four men from Rubben. A boy from the latter camp, who was also on board the train, said that but for the parcels received from England the inmates would starve. In the sanatorium attached to the camp three men went mad last week. There is also a great scarcity of medicine there.

The Germans say they are going to make things very "hot" for the Allies in the spring, and they talk very largely of "surprises" in the shape of big guns and a very large number of men. They think the Russians are not to be beaten, but that they can easily be held. The Kaiser is keeping up the idea that God is with him and is getting everybody to go to church and pray.

PERSONALITY OF THE CHILD.

The Democratic Idea.

The subject at a recent session of the annual conference of Educational Associations in London was "The Way to an Educated Democracy."

Professor J. J. Findlay, speaking of the part the school was expected to play in the realisation of an educated democracy, said he would like scholars in the last year of their schooling to be introduced to the administration of their country.

Professor James Shelley, who was wearing the uniform of a private in the Army Service Corps, approached the subject from the point of view of the university. We needed a system of intimate personal selection: a system of patronage, such as produced the great works and personalities of Greece, of Rome, and of renaissance Italy. But the new patronage must be patronage by proxy in the name of the people. As a constructive step towards finding out the real needs of the democracy in education, he wished to offer the new President of the Board of Education the suggestion that he should save money and, much more valuable, save teachers' enthusiasm by reducing the inspectorate by one-half and by appointing instead educational advisers who should act as university tutors to the community. The appointing of educational advisers should be in the hands of the teaching profession itself and not of local authorities.

Another refugee from Berlin said that about a month ago the streets were darkened in order to save coal, although there was plenty of that mineral in the country. Potatoes were portioned out at 5d. per person per week. He had never seen any food riots.

he is a comparatively trifling master to find a few millions a year for the educational business of national reconstruction; when we had pigeon-holed our children and our schools, and employed sufficient clerks to enter up the pounds, shillings, and pence in a proper commercial way—when we had done all these very laudable things we were apt to think our educational system was approaching a truly democratic ideal. And yet there was still the difficulty to face that free education might not be worth having as a gift. He was a thorough-going democrat, but he contemplated with no great relish the vision of a child being ticketed and docketed and weighed and measured from birth onwards by doctors, local authorities, teachers, psychologists, and professional examiners unless he could be sure that beneath it was real growth of the child personality.

In the light of the education nature of the democratic idea, it seemed to him that a healthy democracy must always be evolving an aristocracy, and at the same time ever fostering the forces to destroy it. People must ever be selecting from their number those personalities which most vigorously expressed the ideals and aspirations of the age. As the people became gradually more conscious of the limits to the realisation of the ideals of one age they must be ready to project new ideals. Otherwise they would necessarily be the slaves of those who dominated the situation, instead of regarding them as worthy of willing trust.

The present demand for a strong man was not the surrender of the democratic idea, for it was a matter of chosen trust and not of enforced surrender of liberty. This recognition of our human need of personal trust had been forced upon our national consciousness by the critical nature of the present struggle; but there was always the same need, although we were ordinarily content to let things be hatched up by a soulless committee, whose members had various conflicting axes to grind, rather than risk the dangers attendant on trusting personal inspiration and integrity. This, he thought, was the great national tragedy of our times. This obsession of mutual suspicion was a disease which would eat away the heart of any nation if it persisted long enough. The ultimate salvation of a nation lay in so trusting and training the individual that he became incorruptible.

The need for developing the personal element just now was great, because the modern universities which were being established everywhere and which were looked upon as democratic institutions, were in general particularly lacking in this respect. They were apt to become huge lecturing institutions, dominantly technical and commercial in tone and interest. Whether or not they would be able after the war to capture Oxford and Cambridge for the democratic idea (and he saw no reason why they should not if they wished), in any case it was very necessary that they should capture the spirit of those older institutions—the spirit which made the students citizens of the realm of universal man; from which point of vantage they could contemplate the little world of affairs and see things in just proportion.

We must discover some method, in addition to the crude intellectual test, of determining which of our youth should be sent on to our universities. We needed a system of intimate personal selection: a system of patronage, such as produced the great works and personalities of Greece, of Rome, and of renaissance Italy. But the new patronage must be patronage by proxy in the name of the people. As a constructive step towards finding out the real needs of the democracy in education, he wished to offer the new President of the Board of Education the suggestion that he should save money and, much more valuable, save teachers' enthusiasm by reducing the inspectorate by one-half and by appointing instead educational advisers who should act as university tutors to the community. The appointing of educational advisers should be in the hands of the teaching profession itself and not of local authorities.

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HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

Banks s. 8710

MARINE INSURANCES.

Cantons n. 8375

North Chinas n. 1,160

Unions n. 8900

Yangtzes n. ex 73 8265

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires n. 8155

H. K. Fires n. 8367

SHIPPING.

Douglas s. \$110

Steamboats s. \$19

Indos (Def.) s. \$125

Indos (Pref.) n. 8413

Shells n. 106/-

Ferries b. \$53

REFINERIES.

Sugars s. & ss. \$1.5

Malabons n. \$53

MINING.

Kailans n. 36/-

Langkats n. t. 201/2

Raubs s. \$2.40

Tronohs n. 50/-

Urals n. 28/-

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves s. \$89

Kowloon Docks b. \$126

Shai Docks n. t. 82

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals n. 493

H. K. Hotels s. \$107

Land Invest. b. \$91

H'phrys Est. b. \$6.50

K'loon Lands n. \$33

Shai Lands n. t. 86

West Points s. \$73

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos n. t. 145

Kung Yiks s. t. 131

Shai Cottons b. t. 110

Yangtzeppos s. t. 54

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos b. \$7.94

China Light & P. b. \$4.65

Providents s. \$3.90

Dairy Farms s. \$24

Green Islands b. \$11.10

H. K. Electrics b. \$49

H. K. Ice Co. n. \$160

Ropes b. \$32

Steel Foundries n. \$10

Trams, Low Level b. \$7.10

Trams, Peak old n. \$9.80

Trams, Peak new n. \$1

Laundries n. \$3.84

Watsons b. \$15.96

Wm. Powells n. \$62

Morning Posts n. \$29

SELLING.

T/T 2/4 1/2

Demand 2/4 3/16

30 d/s. 2/4 1/2

60 d/s. 2/4 1/2

4 m/s. 2/4 7/16

T/T Shanghai. Nom.

T/T Singapore. 991/4

T/T India. Nom.

Demand, India. Nom.

T/T San Francis- co & New York} 553/4

T/T Java. 134 1/4

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